KOSUGA et al. Appl. No. To Be Assigned September 11, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-3 and 12-17 are pending in this application. By this Preliminary

Amendment, the specification has been amended and claims 4-11 and 18-24 have been canceled

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: Alan M. Kagen Reg. No. 36,178

AMK:jls 1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor Arlington, VA 22201-4714 Telephone: (703) 816-4000 Facsimile: (703) 816-4100